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1. DURING FIRST PHASE OF DR. KISSINGER'S VISIT TO SAIGON
18 THROUGH 21 OCTOBER HE HAD FOLLOWING CONTACTS WITH STATION
PERSONNEL.

2. COS ATTENDED DINNER AT AMBASSADOR BUNKER'S
RESIDENCE DURING WHICH QUESTION OF STATION'S REPORTING CAME UP.
THIS WAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED IN

3. ON 20 OCTOBER IN MEETING WITH COS ALONE, KISSINGER
ASKED SERIES OF QUESTIONS ON ANTICIPATED IMPACT ON SOUTH VIETNAM
OF CEASE-FIRE "IN PLACE". HE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN
SECURITY AND CONTROL POSTURE OF GVN. COS REPLIES WERE
BASICALLY ALONG LINES OF RECENT AND DRAFT SUBMISSIONS
TO AMBASSADOR, SENT TO HEADQUARTERS FOR INFO ONLY IN

4. ON 21 OCTOBER KISSINGER ATTENDED REGULAR MORNING
MILITARY BRIEFING PRESENTED TO AMBASSADOR BY MEMBER OF
INDICATIONS AND ANALYSIS STAFF. BRIEFER THIS MORNING WAS

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25X PAGE 2 **SECRET**25 **SECRET** WHO TOOK UNEXPECTED PRESENCE OF KISSINGER AND

SULLIVAN WITH GREAT APLONB AND GAVE COHERENT, WELL CONSTRUCTURED BRIEFING. HIGHLIGHT WAS SITUATION IN MILITARY REGION THREE WHERE PREEMPTIVE MOVES ON GROUND AND IN THE AIR APPEAR TO HAVE FOILED ENEMY'S PLANNED OCTOBER 20 HIGHPOINT.

5. 21 OCTOBER LUNCH AT COS RESIDENCE (ATTENDED BY

DR. KISSINGER, AMBASSADORS BUNKER, SULLIVAN AND WHITEHOUSE,

25X1 MAJOR GENERAL GODDING AND STATION STAFFERS **SECRET**

SECRET WAS DESIGNED AS FORUM TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON CURRENT MILITARY SITUATION, PACIFICATION AND CONSEQUENCES OF POSSIBLE CEASE-FIRE. CONSENSUS OF SAIGON REPRESENTATIVES WAS THAT GVN COULD COPE IN STEADY BUT UNSPECTACULAR FASHION WITH CHALLENGES OF CEASE-FIRE, AND THAT THERE APPEARS TO BE SERIOUS GAP BETWEEN FIELD EVALUATIONS OF SITUATION AND IMPRESSION REFLECTED IN WASHINGTON. INR ANALYSIS "SOUTH VIETNAM: *attached*

THE THREAT TO SAIGON" SENT AS STATE TELEGRAM 190978 WAS.

REPEATEDLY CITED AS EXAMPLE OF ANALYSIS WHICH OVERSTATES

ENEMY CAPABILITIES AND MINIMIZES EFFECTIVENESS AND CONTINUITY

25X1 OF GVN REACTION. **SECRET** DISCUSSED IN SOME DETAIL MILITARY

DEVELOPMENTS IN LAST FORTYEIGHT HOURS IN MR-3, GENERAL GODDING

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SECRET

25X1 PAGE 3 S E C R E T

REVIEWED PROSPECTS FOR NEXT LOGISTICS OFFENSIVE AND COS
AND AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE TOUCHED ON VARIETY OF POLITICAL
AND MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS. OVERALL CONCLUSION PRESENTED
SEPARATELY BY KISSINGER AND BY SULLIVAN WAS THAT THEY WILL BE
LEAVING SAIGON WITH VERY DIFFERENT IMPRESSION FROM WHAT THEY HAD
UPON ARRIVAL. IN NUTSHELL, LOCAL ESTIMATES REFLECT FAR MORE
OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF SITUATION THAN WHAT THEY HAD GATHERED IN
WASHINGTON. E2 IMPDET WN-SISM.

S E C R E T

* Dr. Kissinger's views on Agency's reporting of South Vietnam situation.
** Re drafts prepared by station for Ambassador Bunker's report to President.